

Marriages Last Month Slightly Below Average

Seventeen Licenses Issued In This County During Month Of May

The number of marriages in this county last month fell slightly below the average for the month of May over a 15-year period, according to information released by Register of Deeds J. Sam Getsinger this week.

The issuance for the period, however, was the third largest for any month so far this year, leading the records for January and February.

Licenses were issued in the county last month, seven to white and ten to colored couples, as follows:

White
Floyd D. Woolum of 170 Gillis Road, Portsmouth, Va., and Eloise Cherry of Williamston.

Edison Walter Knowles of Roper and Frankie Marlene Hobbs of Plymouth.

Thomas Kenderkick Pritchard of Elizabeth City and Myrtle Manning of Robersonville.

James K. Moore of RFD 2, Williamston, and Priscilla Pierce of Windsor.

Hope Lynn Beacham and Rosa Lenoard, both of Kitty Hawk.

J. C. Gurkin, Jr., of RFD, Williamston, and Pennie O'Neal Rogerson, of RFD 2, Williamston.

Harold Edwin Garland of Rocky Mount and Barbara Ann Grimes of Robersonville.

Colored
Joseph Parker, Jr., of RFD 1, Hobgood, and Carolyn Bryant of Oak City.

James Carroll Sutton of Wallace and Susie Ella Daniels of RFD 1, Stokes.

Raymond Lee Langley and Yvonne Frank, both of RFD, Greenville.

Thomas Bell, Jr., of Oak City, and Mary E. Bess of Bethel.

James Everett, Jr., of Martins Station, both of Williamston.

Weldon Davenport of RFD 1, Roper and Gladys Spauld of Plymouth.

Henry Lee Harrell and Bettybeth Steton, both of Robersonville.

James Edward Roberson, Jr., of RFD 3, Williamston and Lillian Doughty of Williamston.

George Harrell, Jr., of Palmyra and Teora Carr of Hobgood.

William T. Howell of RFD 2, Robersonville and Lucille Cross of RFD 1, Robersonville.

Look For More Blood Donors

An extensive search for more blood donors is underway in this chapter, making ready for the quarterly visit of the Red Cross bloodmobile on Thursday, June 24. The chapter is being asked to give 150 pints of blood. A good response is necessary if the program is to be sustained, it has been pointed out.

Volunteers are asked to contact the Red Cross office in the town hall or Mrs. Lucille Cowen, secretary, at her home on West Main Street.

With one or two exceptions, this chapter has met its quota, but unless the response picks up, it will be short next week.

Reported Improving In Durham Hospital

Taken quite ill at his home here about ten days ago, Garland Weard, local businessman, was reported improved in Duke Hospital this morning. No operation has been definitely scheduled.

OBSERVERS

W. A. Williams, chief, and his assistants and volunteers turned in a splendid performance at their ground observer post at Martin General Hospital during the 24-hour period ending this morning at 10:00 o'clock.

Maintaining a constant watch during the period, the observers reported about twenty planes, it was learned. In the nation, the civil defense program was said to have been tested and found wanting yesterday.

Reviews Mosquito Control Work Here For First Month

Just how effective it will prove to be is not known, but the town is advancing an extensive drive against mosquitoes, according to a report submitted to the local officials by Sanitarian W. B. Gaylord who has been supervising the work.

The report shows that nearly one mile of open ditches has been larvicided, the sprayers using a strong solution of DDT. More than 250 homes and private premises have had residual spraying. Eighty gallons of poison were used, the poison and labor on the particular phase of the control program costing 96.73. In addition to the

residual spraying, the workers have covered twenty acres and sprayed hundreds of garbage cans and other containers.

In addition to the drive against mosquitoes, the town has maintained an effective rat eradication program, the sanitarian explaining that 214 private premises had been treated with poison, that the drive was extended to forty business houses, and that 240 pounds of special poison bait were used.

The combined cost of the mosquito control and rat eradication programs added up to \$396.76 during the first few weeks of the drive.

DOG ROUND-UP

Completing the drive in most sections of the county, Rabies Inspector "Clab" Roberson will center the round-up of stray dogs in and around Williamston next week, it was announced today.

The drive is not designed to eliminate those dogs that have been properly immunized against rabies, but Inspector Roberson has definite orders to wipe out the stray animals.

Owners of those dogs already vaccinated are asked to cooperate with the inspector by penning their animals for one week, beginning next Monday.

Forest Warden Submits Report

In a report to the Martin County commissioners a short time ago, Forest Warden Marvin Leggett said there were 35 forest fires in the county during the ten months ending the first of last month. The fires burned over 2,008 acres, causing an estimated loss of \$15,637.

Without control the fires could have burned over many thousands of acres and caused the destruction into the tens of thousands of dollars.

During the past fiscal year, \$9,073.13 was spent in the county for forest fire control, the county appropriating \$3,175.58 as its share of the cost.

A brief report on forest fires in the State follows for 1953:

The 3,143 fires reported in 1953 burned over 131,077 acres of timber land and 22,459 acres of open land, causing estimated losses of \$1,244,754. Less than one percent—0.80 to be exact—of the 16,920,034 acres of forests under State and cooperative county protection was burned.

Seven Hundred Lose Licenses

Raleigh.—More than 700 Tar Heels aren't doing any legal driving today because of drunken driving convictions secured against them last month according to the Motor Vehicles Department's regular monthly statement.

For May the vehicles agency reported 710 drunken driving convictions which, as usual, led the monthly report of traffic violations requiring the surrender of driving privileges.

Second offense drunken drivers totaled 122 for the month and all other additional liquor-motor vehicle violations came to 26.

Speeding offenses cost 541 licenses, broken down like this: over 75 mph 154; two offenses over 55 mph 133; over 70 mph in an auto 152; and over 60 in a truck 2.

Other violations like reckless driving, driving after license revoked, manslaughter, unsatisfied vocations to 970. Suspensions to bring the month's total of revocations to 970. Suspensions totaled 833.

Cancel Civil Defense Classes At Jamesville

Civil defense classes, tentatively scheduled at Jamesville, have been cancelled, it was announced during the week-end. The classes were ruled out when there wasn't sufficient interest to sustain them, it was explained.

Snatch Thief Takes 75c But Leaves \$25 in Bills

Baltimore, Md.—Two negro youths snatched the purse of Miss Carmela Longo, as she walked down a street. A short time later, police found the purse a few blocks away. Gone was a wallet which contained 75c. Intact at the bottom of the purse was \$25 in bills.

Man Loses Life By Drowning In Farm Fish Pond

Everetts Youth Was Swimming With Companions Sunday Morning

Frank Roberson, 17-year-old Negro youth of Everetts, lost his life by drowning while swimming in Farmer Albert White's fish pond near Williamston about 11:00 o'clock Sunday morning. The body was recovered about two and one-half hours later by Jailer Roy Peel and Sheriff M. W. Holloman.

Unable to swim very well, Roberson went to the pond with Orlander Roberson, James Earl Peel and Cecil Bennett. He was wading and slipped into about eight feet of water. His three companions were on the bank at the time, and Orlander Roberson jumped into the pond, but the victim went under a last time before he could reach him.

Coroner W. W. Biggs investigated the drowning and ruled a formal inquest unnecessary. Equipped with special drag lines, the officers had little difficulty finding and raising the body after they reached the pond. The body was turned over to the Everett Funeral Home.

It was the first drowning in the county so far this summer season, and the second since early spring when a fisherman lost his life in a Roanoke tributary not far from Gardner's Creek.

Surviving are an adopted son, James Harrell; one sister Mrs. Hattie Harrison; and four half-sisters, Mrs. Fritz Lichte of Bryan, Texas, Mrs. Bessie Hampton of Williamston, Mrs. Bettie Gregg of Lakeland, Fla., and Mrs. Ludie Reno of Orlander, Florida.

Mr. Harrell was a prominent layman in the Baptist church for many years, and was active in community affairs at Ridgecrest during his residence there. He is well remembered here as a public leader and a man of sterling qualities.

Funeral services are being conducted in Ridgecrest this afternoon, and interment will follow in the family plot in the Cemetery there.

4-H Club Group Attending Camp

Traveling in a special bus twenty-five Martin County 4-H club members left early Monday for Camp Schaub, thirty miles beyond Asheville, where they are holding a one-week encampment. Accompanied by Home Agent Mrs. Elizabeth Harrison and Assistant Agent Larry Hodges, the young people plan to return home Saturday evening. They are sharing the camp this week with club members from Bertie and Scotland counties.

Those attending from Martin County are Freddie Barrett, Betty Beach, Jane Brady, Melva Bunting, Benny Daniels, Bob Grimes, Frosty G. Harrison, Eleanor Gail Harrison, Sharon Harrison, Irvin Earl James, Brown Keel, Richard C. Keel, Jeanette Lilley, Donna Kay Matthews, Tommie E. Manning, Carolyn Jane Mobley, Pearl Perry Elaine Revels, Betsy Revels, Judy Smith, Donnie Smith, Avas Grace Smith, Irma Dean Tyre, Allen Gray Tyre, and Charles E. Ward.

Russian First Deputy Premier Lazar M. Kaganovich recently told a massed group of railroad workers, meeting in the Kremlin, that the Red Army would reach out farther than Berlin—if another international conflict overtakes the world.

The Soviet official thus warned the West that Communist armies would invade West Europe if a new war occurs. And he told Russian railroad workers the Soviet transportation system would be up to the task, just as it had been when Hitler attacked Russia in 1941, if that day came.

Despite the assuring words, Kaganovich's speech confirmed what many western observers had long suspected. In revealing that Soviet production of railroad rolling stock had been down sharply in the past few years, the Deputy Premier supported the theory of many westerners who believe the Korean War forced the Russians to curtail civilian production of heavy goods in favor of military production.

The large numbers of railroad rolling stock, trucks and mechanized equipment destroyed by the U. S. Air Force in the three years of Korean fighting was thought to have imposed a strain on Red production facilities at the time, though there was no way of gauging the extent at that time.

Now it appears that one result of that destruction has been a slower build-up of rolling stock on USSR railroads. This could well be one of a number of slow-ups in Soviet production caused by the Korean War, and an indication why the Russians were willing to settle for a truce that left South Korea in the same position it was in before the North Koreans attacked that country in 1950.

Stop Thousands On Speed Count

Raleigh.—Speeding convictions were secured against 4,118 Tar Heel drivers in May the Motor Vehicles Department reported today in a regular monthly summary of moving violations.

Simple speeding (over 55 mph) does not require revocation of driving privileges for the first offense nor does reckless driving which held second place in the reports with 1,020 convictions.

Driving without an operator's permit was in third place with report with 1,020 convictions.

Failing to yield the right of way resulted in 198 convictions, failing to stop for a stop sign 327, faulty equipment 268, improper passing 159, following too close 139, and driving on the wrong side of the road 107.

Miscellaneous offenses brought the May total to 7,573 convictions, all North Carolinians.

Out of state violators added another 1,823 to the guilty list.

Aid Business First Aim Of Present Government

In speaking before a CIO "full employment" meeting, Treasury Secretary Humphrey declared that helping business is more important to the economy right now than helping consumers. He contended that the nation cannot be prosperous unless heavy industry thrives and that it is the buyers of the products of heavy industry—the generators, turbines, all the big things—which are the businesses and the people who invest their savings.

Former Resident Suffers An Attack

While traveling from his home in Chalmette, Louisiana, to spend his vacation here and in New Bern, Mr. Chas. A. Hamilton, former Williamston resident, suffered a heart attack near Columbia, South Carolina, and is now in a hospital there for treatment.

Last reports stated his condition was improving, and that he would be glad to hear from his friends in this section. His address is Veterans Hospital Administration Hospital Ward 3, Columbia, S. C.

Native Of Town Died In Hospital Sunday Afternoon

Funeral Service Being Held In Ridgecrest For James Henry Harrell

James Henry Harrell, native of Williamston, died in an Asheville hospital early Sunday afternoon. He had been in declining health for several years, and was a patient in the hospital for a long time.

The son of the late John S. and Emma Peele Harrell, he was born in Williamston 79 years ago in August, 1874. He spent his early life here, engaging in the furniture manufacturing business. Later he went with a firearms manufacturer and traveled a large territory, making his home first in Norfolk, and later in Macon and Atlanta, Georgia. For the past twenty years he had made his home in Ridgecrest where he was connected with the Baptist Assembly until declining health forced his retirement.

He was married to Miss Pattie Taylor who died several years ago.

Surviving are an adopted son, James Harrell; one sister Mrs. Hattie Harrison; and four half-sisters, Mrs. Fritz Lichte of Bryan, Texas, Mrs. Bessie Hampton of Williamston, Mrs. Bettie Gregg of Lakeland, Fla., and Mrs. Ludie Reno of Orlander, Florida.

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Funeral services are being conducted in Ridgecrest this afternoon, and interment will follow in the family plot in the Cemetery there.

Firemen Answer Two Calls Here

Volunteer firemen were called out twice during the past few days. The first run was made last Saturday morning to Martin General Hospital where an electric motor burned out. Damage was confined to the motor.

At 10:20 o'clock yesterday morning fire, starting in a kitchen wood box, threatened the Henry Bullock home, 209 Peele Street. No one was at home but neighbors saw the fire, broke into the house and had it under control by the time firemen reached there. It was pointed out that the battery on one of the trucks failed and difficulty was experienced in starting the engine. Damage to the home was limited, firemen said.

Scattered Rains Fall In County

While dry conditions continue for the most part, several sections have had some relief during the past few days. Scattered showers were reported in the county late yesterday afternoon, centering mostly in the southeastern part. Dividing lines for the showers were marked, one farmer reporting very little rain while his neighbor reported a good shower.

A fair fall of short duration was reported on the local streets, but at the river the total between 5:30 and 8:00 o'clock last evening was limited to one-twentieth of an inch.

Additional showers are eagerly awaited this afternoon.

County Boys To Attend Courses

Sponsored by the banks in this county, two Martin youths will leave next Monday to attend the second annual two-week short course at State College in Raleigh, it was announced this week by D. V. Clayton, chairman of the committee.

Ward Perry, son of Mr. and Mrs. Simon Perry and Billy Wynne, son of Mr. and Mrs. Joe Wynne, have been chosen to represent the county, the banks paying all expenses for the youths.

Nearly 300 young men are expected to attend the short course.

The following drunken driving cases were continued when it was explained that the trial lawyers were out of the State: Robt. E. Linton, Luther B. Mazingo, Jas. Taylor Whitley, Moses E. Abrams, Romie Holton Alexander and Harvey T. Mayo.

Fredrick W. Harrison, charged with speeding in excess of 90 miles an hour, withdrew his appeal and accepted the judgment handed down in the county court.

Charged with drunken driving, Earl V. Tetterton also withdrew his appeal and accepted the lower court judgment.

The assault case against J. P. Holliday was continued by consent, along with those in which James E. Randolph was charged with issuing a worthless check, and LeRoy Roberson with an assault with a deadly weapon.

Charged with aiding and abetting the larceny of soy beans, not guilty. Pleading guilty in the Johnnie Mobley was found not case, Hallie Little was sentenced to the roads for twelve months, the court placing the defendant on probation for three years.

Eugene Whitley, charged with bastardy, was found not guilty.

The court was in recess today on account of Judge Morris' illness.

Court Nears End Of Its Criminal Docket

Robbers Get Ten Years In Prison In Three Cases

Handling cases of both a criminal and civil nature, the Martin County Superior Court today is nearing the end of its criminal docket with the possibility that the term will be brought to a close tomorrow. Judge Chester Morris, out for several weeks on account of illness, is on the bench.

Several young men were convicted Monday that crime does not pay. Pleading guilty in three robbery cases, they were sentenced to the State's prison for ten years, five years to run concurrently in each of two cases. LeRoy Grimes, Jr., pleading guilty of breaking into Hardy's store at Everetts, was sentenced to prison for five years. Edward Grimes, 20, and Artis Ree Daniels, 31, drew two years in prison. A motion of not guilty as to Ashley Page, Jr., was allowed at the conclusion of State evidence. In the D. C. Peel robbery case, Edward Grimes and Artis Ree Daniels were sentenced to the roads for two years, the sentences to run concurrently with those imposed in the Hardy case. LeRoy Grimes, Jr., was sentenced to prison for five years, the sentence to run concurrently. Ashley Page, Jr., was released when the court granted a motion.

In the J. H. Roebuck store robbery in Parmele early this year, LeRoy Grimes, Jr., was sentenced to prison for two years, and Artis Ree Daniels drew twelve months, the sentences to begin at the completion of those imposed in the other cases.

The rape case brought against William Augustus Wiggins was thrown out of court when the grand jury found no true bill. Several witnesses were called by Foreman Lawrence Hyman, and apparently discrepancies in the evidence were found.

Matthew Keel, charged with breaking into the R. L. Vandford home and stealing \$25, was sentenced to State's Prison for not less than two and not more than three years. The youthful defendant was placed on probation for three years and was required to reimburse the prosecuting witness and pay the court costs.

Charles Keel, a neat young white man of only 20 years, was sentenced to the roads for eight months for forging the name of L. N. James to a \$20 check and cashing it at the Amoco station in Robersonville. It was admitted in court that the defendant had forged cases pending against him in Chowan, Pitt and Edgecombe counties.

The case in which Willie Goham stands charged with bastardy, was remanded to the county court for compliance with judgment imposed by Judge H. O. Peele.

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Five Automobile Wrecks Reported On County Roads

One Person Was Badly Hurt When Run Down By Car Saturday Night

One person was badly injured and two or three others suffered minor hurts in a series of automobile accidents on the highways in this county during the past few days. Property damage mounted, first estimates placing the loss in excess of \$1,600. The accumulation of wrecks during the past week followed a week in which no accidents were reported in this county.

The first in the series of wrecks was reported early last Wednesday morning about 6:00 o'clock when Charlie Ben Andrews, 17-year-old youth, lost control of his 1951 Chevrolet in a curve on a dirt road and turned the machine over. He was not hurt and the property damage was limited to about \$100, the investigating patrolman said.

Last Wednesday night at 9:15 o'clock John Edwin Roberson, driving toward Robersonville on Highway 903, started to pass Marion Griffin just as Griffin was making a left turn into the drive-in theater. No one was hurt. Damage to Roberson's 1953 Olds was estimated at \$180, and the loss on Griffin's 1953 Plymouth will approximate \$175, according to information reaching here.

A three-car accident was reported last Saturday evening at 7:45 o'clock on Highway 125 about two miles north of Hamilton. Getting ready to make a left turn, Ollie Harrell Bullock of RFD 1, Oak City, stopped her 1949 Studebaker to allow an approaching car to pass. Nick Hopkins, also traveling toward Oak City, crashed into the rear of the Studebaker, knocking it across a ditch and into a field.

Hopkins' 1953 DeSoto then swerved and struck the approaching car, a 1941 Chevrolet driven by Robert Lee Everett. The Chevrolet was knocked across the ditch and into a field on the opposite side of the road from the Studebaker. Bobby Latham, riding with Hopkins, suffered lacerations and bruises in the arm. No one else was said to have been hurt. Damage to the Studebaker and Chevrolet was estimated at \$125 each and that to the DeSoto at \$80.

Walking the Tar Landing Road over in Williams Township last Saturday evening at 9:15 o'clock, Reynolds Gardner was struck by Willie B. Roberts who was operating a 1948 Ford pick-up truck. In addition to lacerations and bruises, Gardner suffered a bad fracture of one arm, one report stating that the nerve system was materially damaged. Following treatment in a Williamston hospital overnight, he was removed to a specialist in Norfolk Sunday.

John L. Swain, 16-year-old youth of RFD 1, Robersonville, lost control of his 1940 Ford shortly before noon Sunday and turned it over one and one-half times on the Bailey road not far from Everetts. The investigating officer said the machine went down the left ditch sixty yards, swerved across the road and came to a stop 37 yards in J. R. Pullock's corn field. The youth, a victim of three accidents, rode each one of them with no injuries, it was said. Damage to his car was estimated at \$100.

Death moved off the highways last week-end and claimed a life by drowning.

J. A. Manning Continues Ill In Local Hospital

A patient in Brown's Community Hospital for several weeks, John A. Manning continues quite ill, according to last reports coming from the hospital this morning.

ROUND-UP

The crime front in this county was reasonably quiet over the week-end, a report from the sheriff's office listing only five arrests during period.

Two were booked for alleged breaking and entering, and one each for larceny, drunkenness and drunken driving.

One of the five was white, and the ages of the group ranged from 17 to 39 years.

BIDS

Bids, calling for the construction of a shop and classroom addition at the Williamston High School, are to be opened at 2:00 o'clock in the afternoon of Tuesday, June 29, according to an advertisement released by the architect today.

Bids also will be opened at that time on a new high school unit in Robersonville.

Routine Report By Grand Jury

Completing its work in a single day, the Martin County Grand Jury filed a routine report and left town, turning the room over to a special session of the board of commissioners Tuesday morning.

The routine report, appearing over the signature of N. Lawrence Hyman, follows:

All bills of indictment were passed upon by us except one, which was postponed because of the failure of witnesses to appear.

The reports of justices of the peace were checked and found filed with the clerk of the court and all fines paid to the county treasurer.

We found the jail in excellent condition with five colored men and two white men as prisoners.

We inspected the county home and TB ward and found the county home in good shape with everybody satisfied. However, it is recommended that the TB ward be painted as soon as practicable.

In the TB ward we found six colored men and five colored women. In the county home there were six white women, two white men and three colored men.